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Title: Shri K.C. Venugopal made a submission regarding reported attack on a Malayali priest in Australia.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri K.C. Venugopal, we will have 'Zero Hour' after the Guillotine. â€¦ (*Interruptions*) What is the matter?

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Hon. Speaker Madam, once again a racially motivated incident has been reported from Australia. A Catholic Bishop from Kerala Reverend Tomy Kalathoor Mathew was critically injured at Melbourne, Australia. He was attacked while he was doing a Sunday mass at a Church in Melbourne.

It is clear that the attack was motivated on the basis of racial prejudice. He was stabbed in the neck just before he was about to say mass at the Church. As per the report, the offenders told the Priest that because he was an Indian, he must be a Hindu or a Muslim and therefore cannot be saying mass. That is what the attacker told. Father Tomy is recovering from critical injuries.

This continuing attack against Indian citizens abroad is a serious concern. This racially motivated attack against Indians and all other citizens has to be curtailed. I request the Government to look into this matter and take all diplomatic efforts to provide safety and security for Indian citizens living and studying abroad. I seek a clarification from the Government. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: All of you can associate.

...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Md. Badruddoza Khan, Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Shri M.B. Rajesh, Shri Gaurav Gogoi, Shri Ninong Ering, Shri Kodikunnil Suresh, Shri Mullappally Ramachandran, Shri N.K. Premachandran and Shri George Baker are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri K.C. Venugopal.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Madam, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister is here. He can respond to this. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Do you want to say something?

...(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR): Madam Speaker, the hon. Member Shri Venugopal and other Members have raised a serious matter in this august House about the attack on a Malayali priest in Australia. ...(*Interruptions*)

We condemn all types of racial attacks on our Indian citizens. I would be requesting, Madam Speaker, the hon. Minister of External Affairs to look into the matter immediately to see that such incidents do not recur and corrective measures are taken. ...(*Interruptions*)

12.12 hours